

Washington State Medical Commission Legal Actions: 2/1/2013-4/30/2013

Practitioner	Action	Date Entered	Cause of Action	Commission Action
Formal Actions				
Alvord, Rex M., MD (MD00035185) Gig Harbor, Pierce County	Agreed Order	2/21/2013	Respondent violated his Washington Physicians Health Program contract, thereby failing to comply with a prior Commission order.	Indefinite suspension.
Baerthlein, William C., MD (MD00039029) Texas	Agreed Order	3/27/2013	Respondent surrendered his license to practice medicine in New York. The Commission suspended and then reinstated his license in Washington.	Indefinite probation. Comply with a monitoring contract in New York. \$2,000 fine. Be evaluated by the Washington Physicians Health Program before practicing in Washington.
Carandang, Carlo MD (MD00036496) Texas	Agreed Order	2/21/2013	The College of Physicians & Surgeons of Nova Scotia reprimanded and placed conditions on Respondent's license.	Indefinite probation. Comply with the terms and conditions of the Agreement with the College of Physicians & Surgeons of Nova Scotia, undergo therapy, follow the pharmacotherapy recommendations of his primary care provider, and practice in a group setting.
Gramann, Robert C., MD (MD00015053) Enumclaw, King County	Agreed Order	4/4/2013	Respondent mismanaged the hypertension of a patient who was pregnant with twins and had a history of pre-eclampsia, and failed to deliver the twins early despite compelling reasons to do so, resulting in the deaths of the mother and the twins.	Indefinite probation. Shall not practice obstetrics without clinical skills evaluation, Commission approval, and practice reviews. \$5,000 fine.
Killen, Ronald, MD (MD00024467) Oregon	Default Order	4/29/2013	Respondent entered into an Order with the Oregon Medical Board in which he voluntarily withdrew from the practice of medicine while under investigation.	Indefinite suspension.
Killian, Robert K., MD (MD00033951) Seattle, King County	Agreed Order	3/27/2013	Respondent ordered controlled substances for his own use, did not keep a controlled substance log, and exhibited disruptive behavior.	Two-year probation. Maintain a controlled substance log, regularly solicit patient feedback, practice reviews, file quarterly declarations. \$1,000 fine. Appear before the Commission every six months.
LeChabrier, Lana, MD (MD00027048) California	Default Order	3/22/2013	The California Medical Board suspended Respondent's license to practice medicine in California.	Indefinite suspension.
Mafera, James H., MD (MD00048625) Yakima, Yakima County	Agreed Order	3/6/2013	Respondent prescribed controlled substances without a valid DEA registration, while involved socially with the patient, without appropriate medical charting, and without keeping a controlled substance log. He misrepresented the nature of the relationship with the patient to the	Minimum one-year suspension. Complete courses in boundaries, ethics, record-keeping, and pain-management, a Washington Physicians Health Program assessment prior to applying for a limited license for a residency, complete a 2-year residency before full license

			Commission's investigator.	reinstatement. \$1,000 fine.
McCoy, Bryan L., PA-C (PA6012036) Gig Harbor, Pierce County	Agreed Order	2/21/2013	Respondent shared inappropriate personal information of a non-clinical nature with two female patients.	One-year probation. Complete an ethics course.
Pauli, Andrew D., MD (MD00024846) Bellingham, Whatcom County	Agreed Order	4/4/2013	Respondent advertised human growth hormone (HGH) as anti-aging therapy to consumers, treated five patients with HGH without sufficient medical justification, failed to keep adequate records, and failed to provide un-redacted records requested by the Commission.	Four-year probation. Shall not advertise hormone supplementation treatment or treat patients in Washington with HGH, complete an ethics course, practice reviews. \$8,000 fine. Appear before the Commission annually.
Shlifer, Susan J., MD (MD00035541) Poulsbo, Kitsap County	Agreed Order	2/21/2013	Respondent provided substandard medical care placing patients at unreasonable risk of harm generally and in her prescribing of supplemental thyroid, in her use of the inefficacious "Marshall Protocol", in treating chronic pain with opioids, in diagnosing and treating fibromyalgia, chronic fatigue syndrome, vitamin D deficiencies and elevations, irritable bowel syndrome, and so called "variant" anti-phospholipid antibody syndrome; and in her off-label use of angiotensin receptor blocking.	Minimum five-year probation. Permanent restriction from the use of "The Marshall Protocol," comply with a physician preceptor program, undergo an evaluation of internal medicine clinical skills with a re-evaluation after completing all recommended remediation, complete an ethics course. \$3,000 fine. Appear before the Commission annually.
Smyth, Cynthia M., MD (MD00033399) Seattle, King County	Agreed Order	2/6/2013	Respondent violated a contract with the Washington Physicians Health Program.	Five-year suspension.
Soong, Mejah, MD (MD00048978) Coupeville, Island County	Stipulation to Practice Under Conditions	4/10/2013	Respondent had her license to practice medicine in Connecticut revoked and her license in Massachusetts suspended.	Minimum two-year probation. Monitoring by a psychiatrist. Appear before the Commission annually.
Tuning, David J., PA-C (PA10001203) Goldendale, Klickitat County	Agreed Order	2/21/2013	Respondent had a sexual relationship with a patient.	Voluntary surrender.
Vondran, Janet E., MD (MD00033182) Bremerton, Kitsap County	Agreed Order	2/21/2012	Respondent inappropriately treated adult patients with human growth hormone (HGH), failed to keep adequate medical records, and illegally advertised HGH to consumers as an anti-aging remedy.	Two-year probation. Shall not advertise hormone supplementation or provide HGH treatment to patients, semi-annual practice reviews. \$3,000 fine. Appear before the Commission annually.

Weeks, Bradford S., MD (MD00030856) Clinton, Island County	Final Order	3/6/2013	Following a hearing, the Commission found Respondent inappropriately treated adult patients with human growth hormone (HGH), illegally offered to consumers HGH as an anti-aging remedy, violated a prior Commission order, and failed to cooperate with the Commission's investigation.	Minimum three-year suspension. Complete one-year fellowship before modification or reinstatement. \$5,000 fine.
Young, John L., MD (MD60187941) Maryland	Agreed Order	2/21/2013	Respondent failed to cooperate with a Commission investigation.	Indefinite suspension. Shall not treat any Washington state patients and may not renew Washington license after it expires in July 2013. \$5,000 fine.
Informal Actions				
Capel, Christopher C., MD (MD00044466) Mississippi	Stipulation to Informal Disposition	4/4/2013	Alleged: Failure to timely address abdominal infection following gall bladder removal surgery. Respondent does not admit to unprofessional conduct.	60-day probation. Submit reports to the Commission on post-surgical complications involving death or major disability, write a paper on the early evaluation and treatment of post-operative complications. \$1,000 partial cost recovery. Appear before the Commission prior to resuming practice in Washington.
Capwell, Robin R., MD (MD00024463) Seattle, King County	Stipulation to Informal Disposition	2/21/2013	Alleged: Respondent's practice of psychiatry was deficient in his approach to prescribing potentially addictive medications for patients with active substance abuse histories. Deficiencies include: failure to provide risk-benefit assessment, excessive levels of stimulants, patient-adjusted dosing without rationale, patient-initiated controlled substance treatment without adequate guidance, and failure to consult with simultaneously prescribing physicians. Respondent used stock phrases in lieu of individualized descriptions of patients' mental status, failed to document informed consent, and failed to adequately assess reported symptoms. Respondent does not admit to unprofessional conduct.	Five- year probation. Undergo a clinical skills assessment and comply with recommendations, annual practice reviews. \$1,000 partial cost recovery. Appear before the Commission annually.

Carter, Enrique D., MD (MD00014484) Pasco, Franklin County	Stipulation to Informal Disposition	2/21/2013	Alleged: Respondent mistakenly removed the ampulla of Vater, believing it to be a polyp.	Two-year probation. Have a board certified gastroenterologist proctor ten consecutive upper-endoscopy procedures, successfully complete at least five hours of continuing medical education on the diagnoses and treatment of Barrett's Esophagus, complete a medical record-keeping course, practice reviews. \$1,000 partial cost recovery.
Clark, Joan G., MD (MD00022064) Seattle, King County	Stipulation to Informal Disposition	2/21/2013	Alleged: Respondent required intensive treatment for alcohol dependence, signed a probationary contract with Washington Physicians Health Program (WPHP) and is currently monitored by WPHP. Respondent does not admit to unprofessional conduct.	Minimum five-year probation. Maintain compliance with Washington Physicians Health Program contract. \$1,000 partial cost recovery. Appear before the Commission every six months, and appear before the Commission for modification before returning to the practice of medicine.
DeHaven, Charlene M., MD (MD60125308) Spokane, Spokane County	Stipulation to Informal Disposition	2/21/2013	Alleged: Respondent entered into a Stipulation and Order with the Idaho State Board which remains in force for five years. The Idaho Board based its Stipulation and Order on information that Respondent self-prescribed and abused prescriptions for controlled substances. Respondent does not admit to unprofessional conduct.	Indefinite probation. Comply with the terms and conditions of Idaho Order and with Washington Physicians Health Program contract. \$1,000 partial cost recovery. Appear before the Commission annually.
Flaherty, Lynne C., MD (MD00026850) Seattle, King County	Stipulation to Informal Disposition	4/4/2013	Alleged: Respondent provided substandard care to a patient in the emergency department.	Complete continuing medical education on toxicology, hepato-renal failure, hepatic failure, and disseminated intravascular coagulopathy, and practice review.
Herzig, William N., MD (MD00030773) Vancouver, Clark County	Stipulation to Informal Disposition	4/4/2013	Alleged: Respondent performed a colonoscopy and a trachelectomy on a 37-year-old patient under general anesthesia and lacerated the bladder and sigmoid colon, but did not discover this at the time. The patient came to the emergency department the next day and underwent a sigmoid rectal colectomy with diversion to colostomy. Respondent does not admit to unprofessional conduct.	30-month probation. Write a paper on the potential complications of trachelectomies and their prevention, practice reviews. \$1,000 partial cost recovery. Appear before the Commission to discuss his paper.

Kamson, Solomon, MD (MD00021337) Seattle, King County	Stipulation to Informal Disposition	2/21/2013	Alleged: Respondent ordered an MRI for a patient with an implanted spinal cord stimulator but did not personally contact the manufacturer for information. The MRI was aborted due to the implant device. Respondent does not admit to unprofessional conduct.	Minimum three-month probation. Submit a paper addressing the importance of contacting manufacturers and following recommendations, develop a protocol for MRI safety. \$1,000 partial cost recovery.
Pfeiffer, Peter R., MD (MD00044482) Bellingham, Whatcom County	Stipulation to Informal Disposition	2/21/2013	Alleged: Respondent issued prescriptions via the internet for controlled substances without examining patients or verifying the authenticity of patient records. Respondent does not admit to unprofessional conduct.	Indefinite probation. Complete an ethics course, submit personal reports, verify monitoring. \$1,000 partial cost recovery.
Spohr, Megan L., MD (MD00046555) Vancouver, Clark County	Stipulation to Informal Disposition	4/4/2013	Alleged: Respondent recommended to a mother of an infant to use mineral oil as a constipation aid. Respondent does not admit to unprofessional conduct.	Two-year probation. Write a paper on the diagnosis and treatment of constipation in infants under one year of age. \$1,000 partial cost recovery. Appear before the Commission annually.
Taylor, Michael V., MD (MD00039277) Bellingham, Whatcom County	Stipulation to Informal Disposition	3/6/2013	Alleged: Respondent surrendered his hospital privileges while under investigation. Respondent does not admit to unprofessional conduct.	Voluntary surrender.
Wasson, Sanjeev, MD (MD00041084) Mount Vernon, Skagit County	Amended Stipulation to Informal Disposition	1/10/2013	Alleged: Respondent conducted examinations of two patients without ensuring the proper use of gowns to provide adequately for the patients' privacy, and his record keeping for these patients was inadequate to explain the examinations. Respondent does not admit to unprofessional conduct.	Body searches on patients referred elsewhere for MRIs on another date are unnecessary and shall not be performed. Complete a course in record keeping, semi-annual audits. \$2,000 partial cost recovery. Respondent complied with all terms and this matter was terminated after 16-months probation, on January 25, 2013.
Weissman, Robert M., MD (MD00022748) Bellevue, King County	Stipulation to Informal Disposition	2/21/2013	Alleged: Respondent cursed and tossed instruments during a surgical procedure. Respondent does not admit to unprofessional conduct.	Two-year probation. Undergo a psychiatric evaluation. \$1,000 partial cost recovery. Appear before the Commission annually.
Welch, Philip D., MD (MD00018862) Seattle, King County	Stipulation to Informal Disposition	3/6/2013	Alleged: Respondent failed to obtain a pap smear and missed a diagnosis of cervical cancer.	Six-month probation. Write a paper on the appropriate diagnosis and treatment of abnormal Pap smears. \$1,000 cost recovery.

658-022 Summer2013

